

Speaker answers call for implementation of key Paul proposal *Rep. Paul, first to call for immediate repeal of Clinton tax on senior citizens, had written to Gingrich on the issue July 21, 1998*

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WASHINGTON, DC - In a meeting with Republican congressman and open to the press, Speaker of the House Newt Gingrich (R-GA) today outlined the top accomplishments and priorities of the GOP-controlled Congress. One of the top goals presented is the repeal of the 1993 tax increase President Clinton and congressional Democrats levied on Social Security benefits.

US Rep. Ron Paul (R-TX) was the first congressman to address this issue in the 105th Congress by introducing legislation to immediately and completely repeal the Clinton tax increase. His legislation, The Social Security Beneficiaries Tax Reduction Act (HR 2723), was introduced in October of 1997.

On July 21, Rep. Paul wrote to Speaker Gingrich, asking that repeal of the Clinton Social Security beneficiaries tax increase be a top priority of the Congress.

"I am aware of recent budget projections which have renewed calls for tax cuts, and I have been most pleased with the leadership which you have shown on this issue," Rep. Paul wrote in his July 21 letter. "I would to call your attention to a bill which I introduced... HR 2723, 'The Social Security Beneficiaries Tax Reduction Act.'"

Rep. Paul's legislation has had the support of key GOP leaders such as Education and Workforce Committee Chairman Bill Goodling (PA) and Republican Conference Vice-Chair Jennifer Dunn (WA).

"I'm pleased that the Speaker and the Republican majority agree with me and see the need to provide immediate tax relief to our senior citizens as a top priority," said Dr. Paul, a physician, after today's Republican Conference meeting. "The trust and integrity of the federal government by the American people has been seriously eroded, thanks to ill-advised plans like the Clinton tax hike on Social Security beneficiaries. Congress has the opportunity to begin restoring that trust by repealing the massive taxes which have been levied by Democrats on the middle class to pay for special-interest, big-government programs."

Rep. Paul said that the Speaker's "quick attention to this issue is gratifying."

"Repealing the tax plan of the Democrats will take a coordinated team effort. I'm glad to be helping set the agenda to benefit our senior citizens."

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